

Loaves & Fishes

OSL HEROES

The other day I helped deliver the food we, OSL, prepare daily for the Nicklesville residents. Nicklesville is a city of tents that is built up on old wood pallets and covered with tarps. There are three portable toilets and a fire pit where the folks gather to get warm. There is no running water, no heat, and no food. OSL brings a hot mid-day meal Monday through Friday. There are approximately 100 adults in residence as well as several children, most are under the age of 10. As hard as it is to see adults living in this kind of environment, it is devastating to know that children have to live this way, and it matters to be able to offer a little bit of comfort, a little bit of ease.

What if every day you knew you were changing a life for the better or maybe even saving someone who is hungry and living without hope? What if there was one simple thing you could do today that might change or even save a life?

This is what you allow us to do every day of the year. It is not our work, it is your work, made possible by *you*, each one of our supporters; because of your generosity, compassion, and trust. We simply can't do it without you. **You** are the heroes of OSL.

In our newsletters, I write about program updates, our statistics, our accomplishments, and our hopes and dreams. This information is helpful for our supporters to make a connection with the extent of the work we do that is made possible by dedicated support. I know that when people are starving and in need, statistics do not matter, nor does it matter if the food is nutritional, healthful, or even tastes good; but it does matter to us.

It matters to us that the 1200 meals we serve daily, 3 meals each day, every day of the year, are tasty, healthful, and made of quality ingredients. It matters that the guests we serve feel cared for, valued, and honored.

In our 23rd year of service OSL continues to change and save lives. We provide meals for six shelters, one transitional housing facility, three permanent housing facilities, two youth day programs, 3 adult day programs, Nicklesville, the Real Change vendors, and the community court system of Seattle. That's approximately 200 tons of food each year prepared and served by the OSL staff and volunteers!!!



These statistics mean nothing without the true heroes of our program. YOU! Our supporters! You help us achieve our mission statement every day.

Although we understand our mission statement is lofty and broad in nature, and is as imperative today as it was when it was created by the first OSL board:

- To provide dignity, care, and compassion through action, with the example that each person can make a difference.
- To educate and advocate acceptance and understanding of each other's differences.
- To ultimately bring about the realization that we are all a vital part of this world and with extended effort **put an end to homelessness, hunger and hatred.**

OSL values are pro-active in nature; honoring all life, promoting equity/balance, creating opportunities and promoting an understanding of our greatest imperative; forgiveness in action and love as a verb.

Serving more than 3 million meals in the last 23 years, OSL has been a nutritional resource and a tool for those who struggle each day with

hunger. We provide dignity by offering delicious meals, prepared with quality ingredients and served with care, kindness, no requirements, or judgment.

We work each day to encourage compassion for those we serve, those who serve with us and for each other.

We understand that although we have different walks in life, different experiences, different authority in our positions, we are born innately equal and deserving of those things which generate equity/balance and grace. We also embrace a generous amount of humor, patience, and empathy. All we do, all we have done, has been made possible by our OSL supporters. You have been with us every day for the past 23 years and every gift we receive matters.

As we enter the holiday season your generosity enables OSL to give those who feel excluded from the joy of life, the gift of love, grace, and fellowship. You are the heroes that make our work possible.

Thank you from all of us at OSL and **Happy Holiday Season!**



beverly graham
 executive director

What's that Smell???

On August 19th 2011, the hottest day of 2011, the OSL walk-in freezer, donated by Fratelli Ice Cream in 1994, failed. Our freezer host at St. John Vianney Catholic Church in Kirkland, WA, called us and said "there is something stinky in Denmark". The odiferous aroma of rotting fish, beef, chicken, (you get the picture, or the smell!), was curling its way up to the second floor where the sanctuary and offices are located. OSL Operations Director Krista and Chef Taran arrived to find a congealed mess of rotting and thawed high protein foods; halibut, salmon, free range chickens, turkey, beef, mixed in with some frozen organic veg and cheese, and "my oh my" what a mess! The compressor on the freezer went out and blew the circuit to the freezer and we lost approximately \$25,000 worth of high protein foods. We sent out an SOS and our friends on Facebook, KING and KOMO



TV, KING Radio, and The Seattle Restaurant Store came to our rescue. By mid-September our freezer was up and running again, \$12,425 worth of donations came in to replace our lost food, and our insurance company covered \$10,000. We never missed a meal thanks to your

generosity and care. We are still trying to rebuild our inventory. A whopping **"Thank You"!**

THANK YOU BOEING EMPLOYEES COMMUNITY FUND

IN 2005 the Seattle Foundation helped OSL purchase our first full size Chiller Van. Our dream of rescuing some of the millions of pounds of food that is tossed into the waste stream began. With the purchase of the Chiller



we were able to formalize our food rescue program and through a collaboration with the ELP Program from Seattle University, FOOD IN MOTION was born. In just a couple of years our rescue and redistribution program had grown so tremendously that we needed an additional vehicle to accommodate all of our pick-ups. In steps the Boeing



Employees Community Fund with an amazingly generous donation of \$35,000 which purchased our new Ford Transit Connect Chiller Van!!! Thank BECF!!!

A Whole Load of Scrap

Karrie Reimer



When the OSL freezer malfunctioned in mid August we had a lot of people come to our aid. Donations came in the form of cash, food, labor to repair the damaged freezer, and a whole load of scrap metal. Scrap metal!? Really?

It does seem like an odd thing to donate but Andrea Ivancich, owner of Seattle Interiors, had a brilliant idea. The idea is now known as the **"Scrapapoolza 2011 Campaign"**. Andrea started a drive to collect any unwanted non-ferrous metal taking other people's garbage and turning it into cash by recycling it at Pacific Iron and Metal. Word of the campaign spread through Facebook, word of mouth, and Andrea promoted it through her contacts in the plumbing and construction industry. In the end they collected **1,498 lbs** of metal which turned into a **\$2,535.98** donation to OSL. **WOW!!!**

Andrea then came up with another way to turn unwanted things into cash for OSL...Jewelry parties anyone?

Andrea and friends will be throwing a jewelry exchange benefit for OSL. Participants are asked to bring with them gold, silver or costume jewelry that they no longer want or need. West Seattle Coin will do a cash exchange on the spot. Catherine Lee, www.creativeleejewelry.com will be selling exquisite handmade jewelry. Both the artist and West Seattle Coin have agreed to donate 10% of their profits to OSL. Thanks again, **Seattle Interiors** and **Andrea Ivancich!!!**



THANK YOU TO OUR FRIENDS AT

ATS

AUTOMATION!

For donating a
2007 Scion to the
OSL Fleet
This Car and ATS
ROCKS!



<http://www.atsinc.org>

THANK YOU MEDINA FOUNDATION!

OSL BOARD /STAFF Strategic Planning Retreat
September 2011.

As OSL enters into its 23rd year of service to the community it became apparent that to continue to do our work in an unstable economy, our organization must have a plan of sustainability. We asked the **Medina Foundation** to help us fund this piece of work and they granted us \$11,000 to begin our journey. Our Consultant, Bonnie Olson from Emerging Designs is helping us



From left to right: **Back Row:** Marty Reimer, Chef AC Bush, Jeff Mueller, Shayne Kraemer, Shane Steffan, Michael Johns, Pitt Means

Middle Row: Anne Alfred, Kayla Tiscornia, Elmer Givens, John Work

Front Row: Brian Allen, Karrie Reimer, Taran Graham, Krista Grimm, Beverly Graham, Devin, Dannette Allen,

Not Pictured: Van Chaney, Ken Wright

Help raise funds for OSL!

We have some ideas for you...

Jewelry Parties: Sponsored by West Seattle Coin and catered by OSL, these are simple house parties featuring new, handmade jewelry to purchase from local jewelry makers. Those attending the party bring in any silver, gold or costume jewelry they no longer want to exchange for cash. WSC does the exchange on the spot and both WSC and the jewelry maker agree to give a percentage (10-50%) of their proceeds from the event to OSL. We can help you get it set up.

Home Concerts: Host a personalized house concert with Beverly Graham, founding OSL Director and accomplished singer/songwriter. You supply the people and the party and we will supply the music and if you would like, OSL staff will also prepare the yummy appetizers. Contact us to book your concert today!

2 Click Fundraising: This is a simple way to shop online and support the work of OSL at the same time. BEFORE you shop online go to <http://www.2clickfundraising.com/> then click on OSL on the left-hand side. You will see a list of merchants (Amazon, Petsmart, The Gap, Old Navy, Barnes and Noble and

more) Click on the merchant link and you will be able to shop as normal. You will not be charged anything extra. The only thing different is OSL will receive a percentage of your purchase! Easy!

Scrap Metal Collection: Start a collection of unwanted non-ferrous metal and we will put you in touch with Seattle Interiors owner, Andrea Ivancich, who will turn it into cash, recycling it at Pacific Iron and Metal. Recycle and feed the hungry... Win, Win...

Electronic Equipment Collection: Similar to the collection of scrap metal, there's a non-profit organization that collects old electronic equipment, refurbishes it and resells it, giving whatever charitable group procured the product all of the profit. You can unload old pc's, phones, printers, etc. We are looking for a volunteer to head up this project.

Old Printer Cartridge Collection: Collect old printer cartridges and turn them into our office. We will send them in to receive a donation.

Donate a car or boat through Northwest Charity Donation Services: 1-800-961-6119 - <http://www.nwcds.com>

Do you have a fundraising idea??? **Contact us at 206 922 2015.**

Have you noticed the updated OSL LOGO?



The original OSL logo was created by our friend **Malachi Hernandez**, a one time employee of OSL. Malachi updated the logo twice in the past 15 years, and created the concept our new logo is based on. **Nicole Glead**, a very talented designer donated her skills and gifts to give the OSL logo a couple of sleek new designs. If you like what you see and need some design work contact Nicole, gleadlnm@plu.edu or nicolegleadle.com Thank you Nicole!!!



OSL PEOPLE PAGES

OSL Stories

US

After the first couple of years of walking the streets to hand lunches out the folks started to post a person on the street corner to watch for my van. As I drove down Yesler, a cry would go up and by the time I turned the corner, 400 people would be lined up waiting for me on Occidental. There were so many people every day that I barely had a moment to look up to see their faces. As I hurriedly handed out the sacks one day someone grabbed my hands. It caused me to stop and look up. A middle aged Hispanic man with a kind and gentle face looked me in the eyes and said "Lunch Lady, you save our lives". That was the day I realized that everyone I was serving had a face, a name, and a story...They also had voices that were seldom heard...I knew I had to join my voice with theirs and began to tell their stories...It was how I learned that there isn't a "them" and "me"... There is simply "us"... All of us... Together...

**"We are standing all together, face to face, and arm in arm. We are standing on the threshold of a dream.
No more fighting, no more hunger, no more wasting life away. It is simply an idea, and I know its time has come"**

John Denver

Interested in other OSL stories? visit www.spirit-speak.org

Farewell to a Dear Friend

In December, OSL will be saying goodbye to one of our faithful employees. For the past 9.5 years Michael Johns has been an integral part of the OSL kitchen bringing with him an incredible work ethic and passion for giving back to the community he was once a part of.



In the winter of 2001, Michael became unemployed after he was laid off from his job in management at a local retail store. His roommate moved across the country leaving him without anyone to share the burden of rent. He couch surfed for about a month and on Christmas day 2001 began "camping" in the concrete jungle of Seattle. Word on the street brought Michael to the OPERATION: Sack Lunch food line, which became his main meal.

After a few months of unofficially helping out at the meal site, Johns became a regular volunteer and was ultimately hired to help in the OSL kitchen. Michel learned the ropes from the ground up and eventually became an OSL Chef. He has added humor, fun, and an extraordinary recall for the smallest of details.

Michael is leaving OSL to further his education and is going back to college to pursue a degree. He and his life partner of 8 years, Trish, recently celebrated the birth of their first child, a son named Asher, on June 18, 2011. They plan to eventually move back to Massachusetts where his mother lives.

Michael's story is one of courage and a willingness to learn from past behaviors. He was determined to change the ones that were detrimental to his own personal excellence. He is generous and caring and has taught all of us to walk through the world in a gentler and kinder fashion. Michael, you will be very much missed. Your OSL family wishes you and your family all the best life has to offer.



Welcome to part time OSL Staff, Karrie Reimer. Karrie joined the OSL staff in June 2011 and is working on marketing, organizational name recognition for OSL, and to promote the work we do in the community. Karrie studied Communications/Journalism at WWU and worked for a world-relief organization leading groups of high school and college students into developing countries such as Mexico, Kenya, Uganda and Haiti. In the process, Karrie learned Spanish and acquired a Masters Degree in Education from Seattle University. She taught High School Spanish for 8 years and during school breaks she led high school groups to Mexico and Guatemala to work in the orphanages and to build houses. Karrie is the spouse of Seattle's own favorite DJ, Marty Reimer, for the Mountain 103.7 FM. She stopped teaching several years ago after the birth of their first child and has come to OSL to work part time because she values our mission and our work. Welcome Karrie!

What OSL Volunteers are saying!

*Dear Krista and the OPERATION: Sack Lunch Team,
Thank you for welcoming and guiding our youth this summer. We at VOICE really believe in OSLs mission and we are grateful that we came be a part of the great work that you do. Our youth gain so much from working with you and seeing the impact that they can make. Time and again our youth express gratitude at being able to volunteer. It gives them a new perspective on who "homeless" people are and what empathy means. It has been wonderful working with you all.*

Sincerely The Voice Leaders and students.

*Dear OPERATION: Sack Lunch crew,
My group had a life changing experience at OPERATION: Sack Lunch and the opportunity to help out as much as possible. We really learned about what you do and the other people involved at OSL have to do every day in order to serve the clients that come to eat a warm meal. On behalf of all the TOPS students, I want to thank you so much for allowing us to volunteer. All the best....TOPS.*

Dear OSL, On behalf of the youth who served with you last week I say thank you. Thank you for an amazing experience. This is the third time I have worked with OSL and each has been unique, life giving, and well organized. Our teens really enjoyed cooking and serving while seeing a side of their home town they had not seen before. Keep up the great work. We look forward to seeing you again. The youth at St. Elizabeth Ann Setons, St Thomas Moore, St. Mary, and St. Michaels.



OSL Board member

~ Van G. Chaney ~
~ Engineering Test Pilot ~
~ Boeing Commercial Airplanes ~

OSL board member Captain Van Chaney is the 777 deputy chief engineering test pilot. As an engineering test pilot, Van conducts flight tests of new aircraft designs and establishes the basic airworthiness of the

aircraft and verifies that it functions as designed.

Captain Chaney joined Boeing in 1996 as an engineer in Flight Test Operations. In 1999, he moved to the Flight Test Pilot organization where he worked as a 737 and 757 system operator and production test pilot. Chaney became an engineering test pilot in 2004 and has been involved in testing the 777-200LR, the 777 Quiet Technology Demonstration, the Next-Generation 737 short-field performance aircraft, he conducted the first flight of the 737-900ER, the 737 Tech Insertion Engine, the 777 auxiliary fuel tank program, the 777 performance enhanced combustor program, he conducted the first flight of the 777 freighter and is currently flying ZA002, Boeing's second 787.

Prior to joining Boeing, Van worked as a test pilot for the Raspet Flight Research Laboratory at Mississippi State University where he helped develop and fly numerous composite prototypes, including the Honda Jet. He was also involved in performance tests of the American General AA5 Tiger and other small aircraft programs. He served in the United States Air Force as a Captain between 1984 and 1988 where as a Test Director he conducted developmental test of the Advanced Medium Range Missile (AMRAAM) on the F-16 and F-15 aircraft.

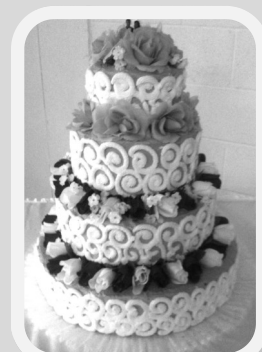
Chaney earned a Bachelor's degree in Aerospace Engineering in 1984 and a Master's degree in Aerospace Engineering in 1990 at Mississippi State University. He is also a 2008 graduate of Seattle University's Executive Leadership program.

Van has been sharing his expertise and wisdom as an OSL board member for the past two years and was instrumental in developing the OSL Food In Motion program, and helped OSL secure a grant from the Boeing Employees Community Fund that allowed us to purchase a new Ford Transit Connect refrigerated van for our food rescue program.



OSL Organics Catering

Having a holiday party? An anniversary? A wedding? If you are, consider using *OSL Organics*, the catering division of OSL, to supply the best food you have ever had at an event. From a simple appetizer and wine event or desert



wedding cake made by OSL
Chef Paul

and beverage gathering, to a full blown five course meal, *OSL Organics* can cater your event and in turn, your donation for our services will help feed nutritional meals to those who are hungry in our community. We will even make your wedding and birthday cakes! We use organic ingredients and will cater to those who would like to join in the party but have dietary restrictions.

Using OSL as your event caterer allows us to continue to do our work to meet the basic nutritional needs to the food insecure in our community. Not only can we cater your event, we will cater it for less than commercial rates!!!

**Contact OSL at 206 922-2015
to book your event today!**



NICKLESVILLE



OSL NEEDS!

Stainless Steel Hotel Pans with Stainless steel Lids
2 inch ~ 4 inch ~ 6 inch
4 ~ 5 gallon cambro's
4 ~ 2.5 gallon soup cambro's
UPCS180 Individual Item Cambro's

YOU ARE AN OSL HERO!

Heroes come in all shapes and sizes. Some people are heroes and don't even know it. Sometimes heroic action is a simple decision to help, not to do something extraordinary, but just to do something kind and generous. Over the years we have met many heroes, some of them live in houses and earn a decent wage, others live rough on the street and struggle with procuring the basic necessities needed for life. You could be a hero and not even know it, but to the people you allow us to help, you are a hero every day.

\$25 buys 6 individuals a full nutritional hot meal

\$50 purchases 10 cases of water

\$100 will pay for 35 gallons of canola cooking oil

\$250 will provide 59 homeless youth a hot meal

\$500 will keep our refrigerated van functional

\$1000 feeds a nourishing hot meal to 308 people

You can count on me for:

A one time donation: _____

A monthly donation: _____

I want to support at the level of:

\$10 OSL Pearl _____

\$25 OSL Garnet _____

\$50 OSL Sapphire _____

\$100 OSL Emerald _____

\$500 OSL Ruby _____

\$1000 OSL Diamond _____

Enclosed please find my check. _____

Please charge my Credit Card:

Card Type: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Amount: \$ _____

You can also donate to OSL on line!

Visit www.opsacklunch.org

and click on the donate now button.

You can donate through **Razoo** or **Pay Pal**.

You can also set up a monthly donation through your bank or employment payroll.

OSL is a 501(c)(3) and all donations are tax deductible.

Let OSL be an end of the year tax write off for you!



Save the Date & **LEAP** into 2012 with OSL!

Reserve Your Table Today

for the

First Annual

OSL Breakfast

Help **OSL** take a ***Giant*** Leap toward ending hunger in our community.

When: Wednesday, February 29th

Where: 415 Westlake in South Lake Union

Time: 7AM to 8:30AM

Breakfast prepared by the fabulous OSL Chefs!

Hear from individuals who have been impacted by OSL's programs
and help shape what lies ahead for OSL in 2012

Sign up for Corporate and Private sponsorships today:

- **\$5000** ~ OSL Diamond ~
- **\$2500** ~ OSL Ruby ~
- **\$1000** ~ OSL Emerald ~
- **\$500** ~ OSL Sapphire ~
- **\$25** ~ Individual seating ~

(sponsors receive name recognition, public acknowledgement in our newsletter,
on our website and Facebook, plus the best seat in the house!)

By participating in the **OSL** Breakfast you are supporting the following **OSL** programs:

- OSL serves **1200 meals each day** to those who are hungry in our community
- **Food in Motion:** food rescue of more than 250,000 lbs annually of nutritionally dense food
- **OCCUPATION: Next Step:** chef training program for economically challenged individuals
- **Meals Partnership Coalition:** advocacy and education alliance for King County providers
- **Outdoor Meal Site:** Meal Service for our outdoor guests
- **OSL Volunteer Program:** community service/urban plunging opportunities

Call **206 922 2015** or email **info@opsacklunch.org** to reserve your table today!

www.opsacklunch.org



OPERATION: Sack Lunch

PO Box 4128

Seattle, WA 98194

OSL NEWS

NUTRITIONAL EXCELLENCE:

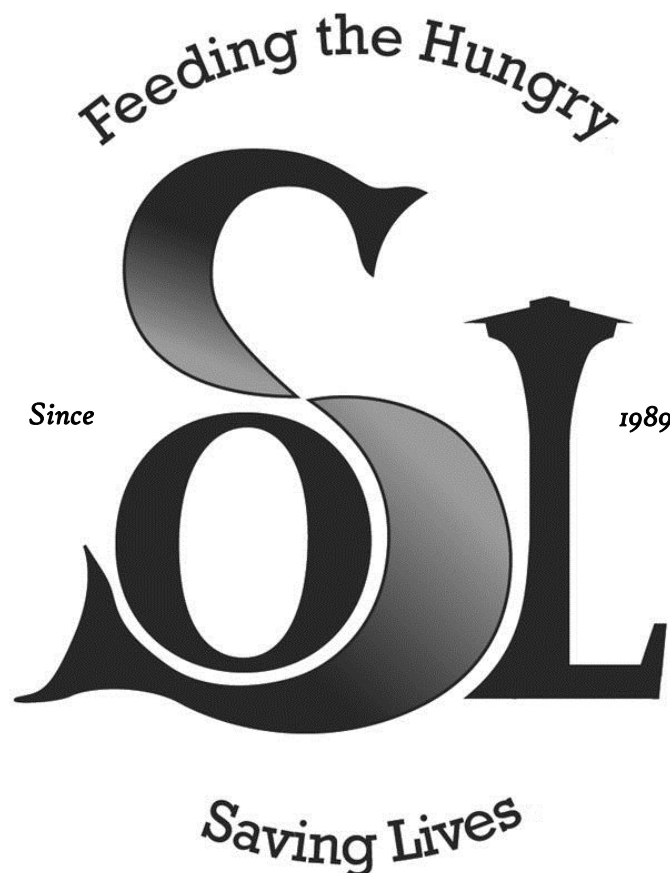
A right we are born to not a privilege we earn

PLEASE NOTE
OUR ADDRESS
CHANGED IN
2010 TO:
PO BOX 4128
Seattle, WA
98194

www.opsacklunch.org
info@opsacklunch.org



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&



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